MSC MONITOR

Student Newspaper of Mat-Su College

Volume 1, Issue 7 | Palmer, Alaska | December 3, 1995

Artists Respond to Controversy

Eggs-ibition: Art with thought

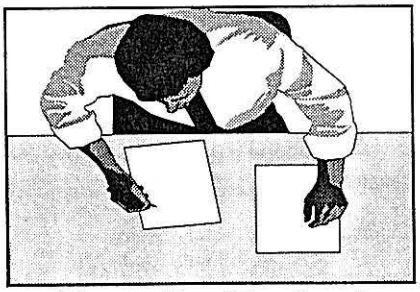
by Amy Menerey

The Eggs-ibition, sponsored by the Art Club and the Art Department of Mat-Su College is an interesting interpretation of the egg theme, as well as a response to the recent censorship controversy. The artist's entries range from the odd to the intricate, expressing a great deal of thought from all. The juror, Lisa Conway, intimated this in her statement when she said, "Also not expected were some of the more subtle interpretation on the egg theme, such as the sensitive and provocative, "Freedom of Eggspression," first place award drawing. Other sculpture/wood/mixed media pieces also tackled this touchy ground. Who would have thought that an egg could be political?"

The show was open to anyone, with the requirement that the work submitted not to be done under instruction, and that the use of eggs in some form be used. The flyer stated, "Puns allowed," and there were many of them used.

This is the first art show to be held in the new gallery of Mat-Su College, located in room 213 of the OLB. Although the location of the gallery is not permanent, Vickie Cole, coordinator of the Mat-Su art faculty, has hopes that a permanent location will be found. "We have needed a secure room in which to have shows for some time," stated Vickie, "and this is a beginning."

The gallery hours are varied; it is operating on a volunteer basis, and the Art Club is looking for volunteers to man the show. See the Eggs-ibition, but be forewarned, if you were offended by some of the artwork displayed recently, don't go.



From the Desk of Joseph Emmons

by Joseph Emmons, Director Mat-Su College

Recently, a group of students asked if the college had a formal, written policy for grievances. There is presently no single student grievance policy, but students have a variety of options to follow to complain about actions or inactions by members of the college community. One finds the various options available for processing

continued on Page 19, Emmons

CHANGES FOR E-MAIL ACCOUNTS

Anyone who currently uses a modem to connect to the UAA dialups and then to a University of Alaska computer system (Orion, Aurora, Acad1, Orca, Admin3, Banner, etc.) needs to sign-up now for a Kerberos username and password. After December 11 for Kenai/Homer/Kodiak/Mat-Su; January 11 for PWSCC, or January 22 for Anchorage, you will need the Kerberos username and password to use the University dialup modems. All the University dialups will go up through this process whether they are through local phone numbers or via Alaskanet.

Your Kerberos username will be the same username that you use to connect to the Orion or Orca systems. Your Kerberos password, however, is separate from your Orion or Orca passwords. Please specify the password you want for your initial Kerberos password. To request a Kerberos username and password, send a request with your current username (Orion or Orca) and initial Kerberos password to AXKERB@ORION.ALASKA.EDU or (907) 786-4646. You will be notified via e-mail when your Kerberos username has been established. The mail message will also contain information on how you can change your password after the initial setup.

Ask computer lab aids if you have any questions or run into any difficulties.

This issue: Eggs-ibition, Christmas Ball, Drunks...

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From the Editor...

Well, it's that time of year again. We're all **tired**. Tired explains how most of us feel right now. In fact, I'm too tired to really have any opinion on anything important this issue. So I'm going to write about...being tired.

I'm tired. Tired of rushing. Tired of hurrying. Tired of worrying. Tired of hearing everyone else complain about...how tired they are. I'm tired of hearing how cold it is. I'm tired of seeing the stressed-out, overworked, under-relaxed, frustrated, tired people around campus. I'm tired of not having snow to liven up the spirit. I'm tired of being broke. I'm tired of...deadlines.

But, hey. The semester's almost over. In-between the work, and the studying, if we thought about it, we'd find out that we probably learned something. And isn't that a great feeling! We've accomplished something, we've grown. We're not the same people we were a few months ago! We're smarter, we're *knowledgeable*. We are College Students! And Christmas is almost here. Forget the presents, forget the money (or lack of), and remember what Christmas is all about. Remember family. Remember friends. Remember love. Remember, we get a month off of school to relax, readjust, reaffirm. And remember, we get to come back in a month and start all over again.

...Amy Menerey

Letters to the Editor

Interest in Artwork is Appreciated

This letter is in response to the November article entitled Art Display is Degrading: Dear Donna, Peggy, Maritza, Carrie, Ellen, Jayne, Don, Jessica, Joe, Marc, Robert, Tony, Phillip and Tim,

It was not my choice to draw a nude - it was my assignment. It was my instructor's choice to display it. Thanks for your interest.

Sue Reed

Repsponsibility for Standards Belong to Individual

Dear Editor,

In response to "Art Display is Degrading" (November issue), I wonder if they have considered all that could come about by the inclination they have - setting STANDARDS. I don't endorse naked bodies walking the halls or hanging on walls, or on some private video or photo collection. However, this country has a constitution that alows freedoms of all sorts and to attack or STANDARDIZE one freedom is to do the same to **all**.

The letter mentioned a "questionable" display. I have seen "questionable" displays for a long time; questionable speech, dress, conduct, homework, instructors, lifestyles and even art. Maybe they had a specific display and standards for a specific freedom in mind.

If we choose to do away with the specific freedom that does away with art that offends, (and that seems what qualifies the removal) then how long before we remove literature or people that offend. It has happended before in this country, World War II saw many freedoms removed from people who were offensive to others and all in the defense of freedom.

The problem goes deeper. Whose standard do we use and who gets to decide if the one chosen is right? Freedom is a delicate issue defined only by our experience of seventy or eighty years. Only one thing is consistent with freedom. It requires responsibility. We can only apply that responsibility to ourselves individually. We take much of the responsibility for granted and deny that we are the one responsbile for much of the rest. The group that wrote the letter has done that. They chose to walk the hall, to come to work, to look at the art work, to go to class, to write a letter and to read or not read this letter. Which of those freedoms would they like to have set standards?

The group also mentioned the children that came for Halloween. Wasn't that by freedom of choice? Did those parents expect an Art Building to have only standard art? Wasn't the haunted house in JKB 122, far removed from the display? Or did those parents exert their freedom not to read the signs or ads completely? In the world we live in parents have the responsiblity to train their children in the proper use of freedom and what to expect from others as they exercise their own freedom.

I am sure this is not the last of this issue. The new art display (I didn't even like some of it!) will probably bring a demand for more standards. Personally, I think I'm intelligent enough to decide standards for me and my family.

Joe Pelletier

MSC Monitor Staff

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	Linda Duarte
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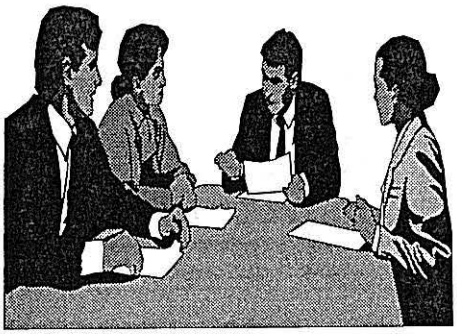
The Monitor welcomes guest columnists and letters to the editor. Submissions will be printed according to space available, and must include name & phone number for verification. These can be placed in the Monitor box in the cafeteria, dropped in the Student Govt./Monitor office or mailed to the MSC Monitor, P.O. Box 2889, Palmer, AK 99645. The editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, grammar, spelling and libel.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Meetings

The next Student Government meeting will be held December 8th, at 4:30 p.m. in room 108. This is the last meeting of the semester, so come and check it out. Watch for notice of the first meeting in the new semester, committees will be forming; be a part of it!

Senator Rick Halford and Senator Lyda Green cordially invite you to a Valley holiday reception at Mat-Su College, Machetanz Building, Tuesday, December 12th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Open to the public! *(not paid for at government expense).*



The Christmas Ball Committee could still use volunteers for decorating and breakdown, if you'd like to help contact Michelle in the Student Government Office. Thanx!

SPECIAL THANKS

The Activities Committee and Christmas Ball Committee would like to thank the following businesses for their generosity during this holiday season:

Carrs Quality Centers, Palmer,
Birdie Fawzi, manager
Event Solutions, Patty Acton, owner
The Perfect Look Hair & Nail Salon,
Cindy, Jinger, Melissa, and Becky
Expressions, Angelique Lawton, owner
Walmart, Wasilla,
Alan Matulka, manager
Tsunami Coffee Co., Mike Divis, owner
Matanuska Maid
Shear Success Hair Salon,
Michelle Phillips, owner
Tub N Tan, Jan & Warren Hill, owners
Kaleidoscope Corner Daycare &
Preschool, Carol Jensen owner

1995 Annual Christmas Ball Tickets on Sale Now

at the Student Government office.
Dinner buffet: Baron of Beef and Roast Turkey with all the fixins'.
Non-alcoholic punch and coffee served.
Friday, December 15, 1995 @ The Palmer Moose Lodge
Dinner 7:00pm - 9:00pm, Dancing 9:00pm - Midnight
Drawing for Door Prizes at 10:00 p.m.
Music by D.J. Donnie Dean
Student Tickets $4.00, Non-Student $14.00
Biggest Bash of the Year,
Don't Miss It!

A Tale Of Two Drunks

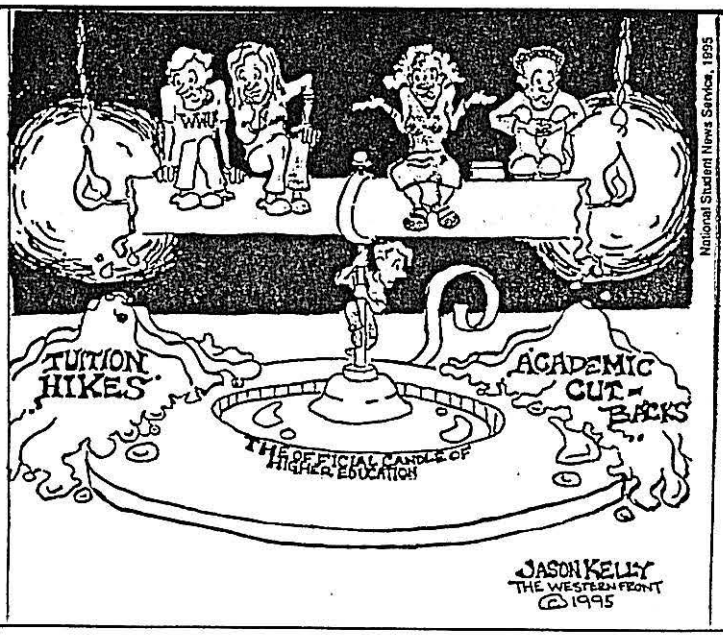
by Joan Tower and Bill Miller

Jake and Ben are driving Northbound on the Glenn Highway toward the Matanuska Valley. Their destination is an establishment called The Wasilla Bar, located on the Parks Highway on the outskirts of Wasilla. The men pop open a new can of beer from the shared six pack, resting between them on the seat of the truck. As Jake's pickup truck makes the left turn from the Glenn Highway to the Parks Highway, Ben shouts, "All right! We're almost there!" Jake smiles and nods in agreement with one hand on the steering wheel and the other hand clutching his open can of beer. As Jake accelerates to 75 m.p.h. he screams to Ben, "I'm sure glad that the bars out in the Valley are open until 5:00 in the morning, because I'm still ready to party! I wish Anchorage was the same way, but I don't mind, as long as we have some beer for the drive." Ben chuckles in agreement. Jake pulls into the parking lot of The Wasilla Bar and shuts off his pickup truck. The two men then proceed to guzzle the last two beers in the six pack before staggering into the bar. At 3:00 in the morning, there is still time for two hours more of drinking. Jake and Ben are fictitious people, but the scenario is very common in the Matanuska Valley.

The reason for people like these two men coming to the Valley at these strange hours is because liquor establishments close at 5:00 a.m. In the municipality of Anchorage, city ordinance requires that liquor establishments close down on or before the hours of 2:00 a.m. on weekdays and 3:00 a.m. on weekends. Usually, people who travel from Anchorage to the Valley after the Anchorage bars close are intoxicated from liquor consumption already to the point of impairment of mental and physical faculties. These intoxicated drivers attempting the journey from Anchorage to the Valley are endangering lives of innocent people on the streets and highways. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Motor-vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death in the United States for persons in all age groups from 1-34 years old. During 1993, 40,115 traffic fatalities occurred; of these, 17,461 were alcohol related."

The people who make the trip after the closing hours for sale of alcoholic beverages in Anchorage may be seen speeding down the highway for a few more drinks in a valley bar or to purchase liquor from a still open liquor store. According to Sergeant Harrison of the Palmer Police Department, "A study was done during 1989-1990 that showed 50% of Driving While Intoxicated arrests involved persons living outside the Palmer area." According to the information in the Police Beat section of the Frontiersman, from January to June, 1995, there were 162 arrests for D.W.I.'s of people who lived in the Mat-Su Borough (this area encompasses all of Healy, South to the Butte and North to Sutton from Palmer). There were 71 arrests from people outside the Mat-Su area which constitutes over 30% of the total number of D.W.I. arrests. In another study, performed on the evening of November 4th, 1995, at the Great Alaskan Bush Company in Anchorage, a poll was conducted at closing time to see how many customers of the Bush Company who stayed until the Anchorage bar shut down were going to drive to the Valley for more partying. Harland Anderson, one of the doormen for the Bush Company, nonchalantly asked 28 patrons who were regulars at the Bush Company, where they were headed after closing. Seven of those people who were asked at least mentioned the possibility of driving to a valley bar or liquor store. If we figure that three or four of those seven actually do venture the trip to the Valley, think about all the other bars in Anchorage that close at 2:00 or 3:00 a.m. and where these people are going. Mr. Anderson emphasized, "With all the drunks who head out to the Valley when the bars close down in Anchorage, I advise everybody to stay off the streets and be

Continued on Page 14, TWO DRUNKS...



THE SPORTS PAGE

Skiers!

For those of you who are dying to hit the slopes:
The only slope currently in operation is Hilltop Ski Area on Abbott Road in Anchorage. They are open seven nights a week and as of November 29th conditions were groomed and hard-packed.

Lack of snow has prevented any of the slopes from opening yet, (Hilltop makes their own).

Bowling in the Valley

Valley Lanes, located at 3250 Palmer-Wasilla Highway currently has open bowling from 12:00 - 6:00 Monday thru Friday, with the special price of $1.50 per game. They are also open on Monday evenings, with prices of $2.50 per game per adult, $2.00 per game per child. Shoe rental is $1.50.

Boxing Update

Thursday night boxing continues at the Egan Center. The latest results are as follows:

Gordy Loosly versus Corey Scruggs
Winner: Gordy Loosly

Mark Bagely versus Abe Hernandez
Winner: Abe Hernandez

Bryan Ryan versus Mike Owen
Winner: Bryan Ryan

Steve Williams versus Paul Ray
Winner: Steve Williams

Don fowler versus Jason Smart
Winner: Jason Smart

Adam Brooks versus Pat Pauli Pauli
Winner: Adam Brooks

Robert Britt versus Ripp Smart
Winner: Robert Britt

Amateur Boxing is held at the Egan Center on Thursday nights at 7:00 p.m.

PALMER POOL
1170 W. Arctic Avenue 745-5091

◆ PUBLIC SWIM ◆

6:30 - 7:30 AM	Lap Swim	Mon-Fri
11:30-12:30 PM	Lap Swim	Mon-Fri
4:30 - 6:30 PM	Lap Swim	Tues-Fri
6:30 - 8:30 PM	Open Swim	Tues-Fri
8:30 - 9:30 PM	Lap Swim	Wed
3:30 - 5:30 PM	Open Swim	Saturday
5:30 - 6:30 PM	Lap Swim	Saturday
3 - 5 PM	Open Swim	Sunday [1]
5 - 6 PM	Lap Swim	Sunday [1]

(1) Palmer Pool will be open every other Sunday for Open & Lap Swim effective September 17, 1995. OPEN DATES ARE: 9/17, 10/1, 10/15, 10/29, 11/12, 11/26, 12/10, 12/24, 1/7/96, 1/21, 2/4, 2/18, 3/3, 3/17, 3/31, 4/14, 4/28, and 5/12.

◆ PRIVATE RENTALS ◆
Rent the pool for special occasions, group activities, parties, or just for FUN. Rates start at $60 per hour.

Palmer: Fri 8:30-9:30 PM; Sat 2:30-3:30 PM
Wasilla: Fri 8:45-9:45 PM; Sat 1:30-3:30 PM or 8:30-9:30 PM; Sun 6:30 - 7:30 PM

ICE ARENA
800 Bogard Road
Wasilla 376-9260

PUBLIC SKATE

Tuesday thru Friday	Noon - 1:30 PM
Tuesday	7 - 8:45 PM
Saturday	1:15 - 3:15 PM

$ ICE ARENA FEES $

6 - Adult	$ 3.00
5 & under	$ 2.00
Seniors	$ 2.00
Families (Up to 4 members)	$ 8.00
Additional Members	$ 1.00
Skate Rental	$ 1.50
Ten Admission Skating Passes	
6 - Adult	$25.00
5 & Under	$15.00
Seniors	$15.00
Skate Sharpening—per pair	$ 4.00
Punchcards (10 sharpenings)	$32.00
Private Ice Rental-Per Hour	$110.00

FREESTYLE
Freestyle sessions are available for the advance skater. Check with arena for available dates and times.

WASILLA POOL
701 E. Bogard Road 376-4222

◆ PUBLIC SWIM ◆

6:00-7:00 AM	Lap Swim	Mon-Fri
Noon-1 PM	Lap Swim	Tues-Fri
2 - 3 PM	Lap Swim	Tues-Fri
5:45-6:45 PM	Lap Swim	Tues-Fri
6:45-8:45 PM	Open Swim	Tues-Fri
3:30 - 5:30 PM	Open Swim	Saturday
5:30 - 6:30 PM	Lap Swim	Saturday
6:30 - 8:30 PM	Open Swim	Saturday
3:30 - 5:30 PM	Open Swim	Sunday [1]
5:30 - 6:30 PM	Lap Swim	Sunday [1]

(1) Wasilla Pool will be open every other Sunday for OPEN & LAP SWIM effective September 10, 1995. OPEN dates are: 9/10, 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19, 12/3, 12/17, 12/31, 1/14/96, 1/28, 2/11, 2/25, 3/10, 3/24, 4/21, 5/5, and 5/19

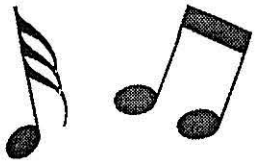
$ POOL FEES $
Open Swim and Lap Swim

• Preschool (3 & Under)	Free [1]
• Youth (4-17 Yrs.)	$3.00
• Adult (18-54 Yrs.)	$4.25
• Sr. Citizen (55 & Older)	$3.00
• Disabled	$3.00
• Family Rate (4 members)	$11.00
• Additional Members	$1.25

[1] When accompanied by paid admission.

ART ABOUT

Music



Vagabond Blues is hosting several musicians in December — 8. Mike Lame, celtic acoustic guitar; 9. Mike Cambell, singing new CD "Sculptor"; 15. Mike Richardson and Night Wind, Irish, Scottish, celtic; 16. Joann & Monty, singing from 7th album "Alleinfre"; 22. Robin Hopper; 23. TBA; 29. Travis Brown, modern acoustical; 30. TBA

Anchorage Youth Symphony — Dec. 5, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

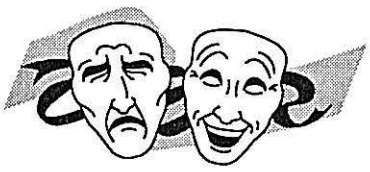
UAA Sinfonia and UAA Wind Ensemble- Dec. 9, UAA Arts Building

"Guitarfest" — Dec. 10, UAA Arts Building

University Singers — Dec. 10 UAA Arts Building

"An American Christmas" —Anchorage Concert Chorus, Dec. 16-17, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

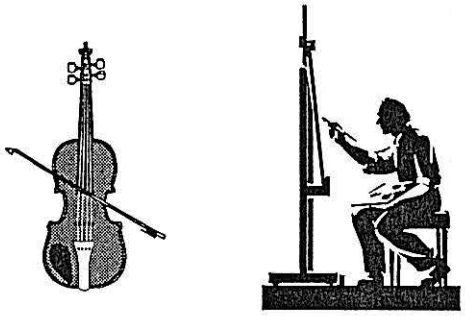
Arctic Spirit Handbell Choir Winter Concert — Dec. 17, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts



Theater

One-Act Play Festival II -- UAA Theater, Dec. 8, UAA Arts Building

"Gypsy" -- Valley Performing Arts, Dec. 8-16, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts



VISUAL ARTS

"EGGSIBITION" -- DEC. 1-20, MSC FSM ROOM 211

WAYNE BURKHEART -- BEGINNING DEC. 8, PHOTOGRAPHY OF THE MAT-SU VALLEY AND KNIK GLACIER, VAGABOND BLUES

"FIFTH INTERNATIONAL SHOEBOX SCULPTURE" DEC. 2-JAN. 31, ANCHORAGE MUSEUM

"DOLLS AND TOYS" -- HOLIDAY EXHIBIT, NOV. 24 - DEC.31, ANCHORAGE MUSEUM

"NO BIG HEADS" -- JURIED EXHIBITION,NOV. 30 - DEC. 14, UAA CAMPUS CENTER GALLERY

BYRON BIRDSALL - WATERCOLORS, DEC. 3-17, ARTIQUE, LTD

BFA EXHIBITION -- DEC.6-13, UAA ARTS BUILDING GALLERY

ANNUAL HOLIDAY BENEFIT FOR BEAN'S CAFE -- DEC. 16, AURORA FINE ART
ERNEST ROBERTSON -- OIL PAINTINGS, DEC. 9-11, ARTIQUE LTD

Family Fun

"The Elves and The Shoemaker" --Anchorage Theatre of Youth, Dec. 8-10, UAA Williamson Auditorium

"A Christmas Carol" -- Anchorage Concert Association, Dec. 16-17, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

"Enchanted World" -- Dec. 17-26, Egan Convention Center

Children's Saturday Art Adventures -- Dec.16, Anchorage Museum

The Imaginarium, even through the reorganization, has seasonal exhibits, science demonstrations in afternoons, and a science store, also preschool exhibits with subjects changed monthly

Ballroom Dancing

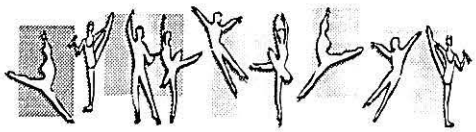
Soroptomist International sponsoring the Snowflake Ball - Dec. 9, Cottonwood Creek Mall. 9pm-1am. $25 per couple. $15 single

Lectures

Alaska Design Forum -- Andy Goldsworthy, Dec. 11, Anchorage Museum

Dance

Pilobolus -- Anchorage Concert Association, Dec. 8-9, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts



EGGS-ibition Hours

The Eggs-ibition will be showing until December 16th. Currently the hours are:
Dec. 4th - 9th
Tuesday 11:00 - 1:00 & 2:00 - 4:00
Wednesday 11:00 - 5:00
Thursday 11:00 - 2:00
Friday 9:00 - 12:00

Dec. 10th - 16th
Tuesday 10:00 - 12:00 & 2:00 - 4:00
Wednesday 10:00 - 2:00
Thursday 5:00 - 6:00
Friday 9:00 - 12:00

These hours are subject to change. More may be added. Volunteers are needed, contact Vickie Cole, Art Office, 745-9742.

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas...

At The Movies

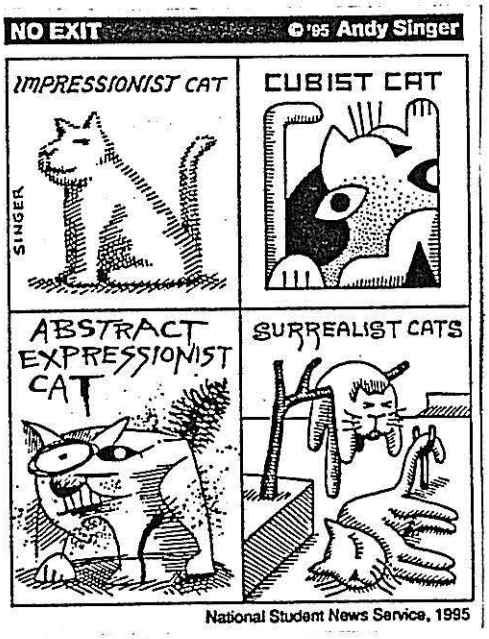
by Joan Tower

Home For The Holidays was an appropriate movie for this season of the year. Everyone should be able to relate to the characters in this movie. There's a wigged-out aunt, an overachieving sister and a gay brother. Fortunately, as in most families, there is a lot of laughter to go with the stress. The script reminded me of past family gatherings; it was funny, sometimes tragic and heartwarming. Leave your prejudice at home and see the movie.

TOO OLD
TOO SOON

TOO WISE
TOO LATE

...MIKE DIVIS, TSUNAMI COFFEE



Results of the Eggs-ibition

Jurror's Choice: "Jurrassic Eggs" by Sue Reed

Watercolor
1st Place: "Three chicken & An Egg" by Lulu Pittard
Honorable Mention: "alien Eggs" by Lynn M. Thorne

Fiber
1st Place: "Fiberge" by Carolyn E. Long
Honorable Mention: "Egg Cabin Fever" by Lynnette J. Carrier

Painting
1st Place: "Three Eggs" by Lynn M. Thorne
Honorable Mention: "It's As Natural As It Looks" by Betsy Halpin

Drawing
1st Place: "Freedom of 'Eggs'pression" by Joyce Reynolds
Honorable Mention: "Sunnysides Up" by Lynda Senta

Glass
1st Place: "Winter Eggs Me On" by Linda Brooks

Mixed Media
1st Place: "Metamorphic Hatching" by Billie Grace Martin
Honorable Mention: "I Know Eggs-actly What Will Be in My "Future" Nest Egg" by Barbara Cordy

Wood
1st Place: "Eggstinct Artist" by Jerri Bagley
Honorable Mention: "Japanese Cultural Eggs-Change by Buz Blum

Sculpture
1st Place: "Censored" by Alma Blum
Honorable Mention: "Gilded EggCase" by Jan Lytle

Metals
1st Place: "Fish AGS on Cu"

Clay
1st Place: "EarthEgg" by Gary McAlpin
Honorable Mention: "Self Portrait" by Vlad Basarab

Traditional Eggs
1st Place: "Untitled" by Jennifer Sullivan
Honorable Mention: "Babushka In the Fall Wind" by Adele George

TIDBITS

*Petitions for classes not usually offered are posted in the JKB on the wall just past the vending machines. Current petitions are for Fall 1996. If you would like a class to be offered, fill out the upper portion of the green form and post on the wall for signatures. If you see one posted that you're interested in, sign it. Twelve signatures on a petition allow it to be offered.

*There is a student mail board in the hallway outside the IBM lab.

*There is a coin operated copy machine for student use located in the library.

*Student Government News is posted on the bulletin boards outside the cafeteria, and on the electronic marquee outside the office.

*Calendars are posted outside the Monitor Office with meeting dates, deadline dates, and issue dates.

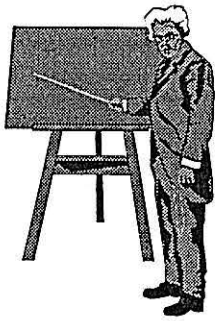
*Vending machines are located in the Kerttula Building and Snodgrass Hall.

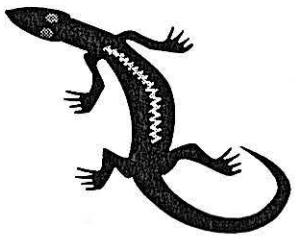
*There is a scanner available in the VAX lab.

*Typewriters are available at Snodgrass Hall.

*Copies of all student evaluations of teacher performances are kept in the library. These evaluations are filled out on a semester basis, and are available for review by students.

THANKS TO THE TEACHERS WHO KEEP LEARNING FUN!





The Best

by Dancing Feather X

You are a swan, says daddy
Don't you settle for less;
The wolf'll eat you,
Gorilla beat you,
You deserve the best.

Don't look at him, says mama,
He's an orangutan;
He's really a vulture,
And his muscular culture,
Makes him terribly vain.

Don't go with him, says daddy,
He's a crocodile;
He smiles, and smiles,
Inside he's all wiles,
Beware when his temper is riled.

Don't wink at him, says mama,
For he's a scaly wet fish;
Indifferent, and practical,
Single-minded; philosophical,
You might as well go for a shell fish.

Don't marry him, says daddy,
He is a hoppy toads;
Give him a kiss,
Marital bliss?
A mud house 'ill be your abode.

Don't gaze at him, says mama,
He's a strutting peacock;
All of his riches,
Won't buy your wishes,
His feathers are only a mock.

Don't speak to him, says daddy,
He's a creeping sea crab;
Stuck in his claw,
Bound by the law,
Him picking your dignity to drabs.

You are a swan, says mom and dad,
Meant for a swan boy;
Patience is a virtue,
We won't let them hurt you,
Don't settle for an alloy.

Dear Julie,

I am a 23 year old student at Mat Su College. My husband works full time, and I work part time. My problem is that I am 3 months pregnant and have no insurance; our income level is too high for medicaid.

Stressed,

Dear Stressed,

You may want to call Valley Women's Resource Center for advice. They know the ins and outs of funding sources. Another agency is the Palmer Health Clinic where services are free, they may know other agencies for referral. Most doctors will set up a payment plan for their services. It's very important to get proper prenatal care for your health and your baby's. Good Luck.

Julie

To Write to "Dear Julie", drop your letter off at the Student Government/Monitor office, or leave in the Monitor box in the cafeteria. "Julie" is a Human Services Major studying paraprofessional counseling.

HURRY! GET YOUR TICKETS FOR THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BALL, THEY'RE GOING FAST!

IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Mat-Su Alternative School

by Shelia Keyser

For some people, Mat-Su Alternative School *is* an alternative to public school. For others, it is a lifesaving piece to their scholastic future. The facility provides a place for young pregnant women, high school drop outs, and/or adjudicated youth to finish their high school education. Unlike the typical high school, the alternative school offers a structured, personalized, scholastic training program for youth who need an alternative. They provide guidance counseling beginning with a plan of education and continue by helping youth find grants to attend college in Alaska or the lower 48.

In addition to this unique style of education they gain a true sense of responsibility. The students are given a strict set of guidelines to follow. Some of these are: minimum attendance of three hours a day, filling out a timecard stating those hours attended and call in for intended absenses or if needing transportation to and from school. In addition, the student must maintain a job working a minimum of 20 hours a week. If a student is absent and calls in they only make up the missing 3 hours. If they don't call beforehand, they are required to make up 6 hours.

Mat-Su Alternative School currently has enrollment of approximately 150 students. Their new location at 1775 Parks Highway, across from Spenard Lumber, houses a much-needed 6000 square feet of learning space. This is in comparison to their old location which had only 2100 square feet. The increased space allowed the school to add a middle school program for 13 to 15-year-olds. Opening June 12th, 1995, the building has large open classrooms for group learning plus four individual rooms for independent study. There is a licensed daycare on the premises for children 6 weeks to 3 years old which is paid for by a federal grant. This is a definite plus for single parents.

Mat-Su Alternative School gives the youth in the valley a chance; a chance to finish their high school education in an environment that is friendly, attentive and most of all, it gives them a chance at a future.

The Mat-Su Valley Humane Society, located at Mile 1.3 Hollywood Road in Big Lake has pets for adoption. Save a life and make a friend!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

General Membership Meeting

Habitat for Humanity, Mat-Su will hold a general membership meeting on Monday, December 11th at 7:00 p.m. at United Protestant (Presbyterian) Church in Palmer located at 707 S. Denali. This meeting is for ALL who are interested in supporting this worthwhile endeavor to provide housing for those that may otherwise be unable to afford it and those that would like to apply for a house.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY... VOLUNTEER

*Local ownership of juvenile crime problem

*Swift, appropriate, and meaningful consequences for behavior

*Offender accountability to victim and community

*Early intervention

Contact: **Juvenile Diversion Panel**
268 E. Fireweed, #5
Palmer, Alaska 99645
745-4887

CLASS NEWS

Masterpieces in Literature I, English 201 - Rita Lammot

by Amy Menerey

Masterpieces in Literature. Masterpieces. What do you think of when you see the words Masterpieces, or Literature. I envisioned words of undying love, beauty, wonderful descriptions of fabulous places. I was wrong. What I got was tales of ridiculous adventures, horrible beasts, infidelity, lust, and hell. True, many of the works we have read were quite descriptive, such as the gory scenes in Dante's Inferno or the comedic lines in the Decameron. But it wasn't what I had pictured when I wrote Masterpieces on my registration form.

Nevertheless, I enjoyed this class. Most of the reading was painless, the discussions were good, the writing was appropriate, and the teacher knowledgeable (even though it was her first time teaching this class).

I plan to take the next class, Masterpieces in Literature II, and I'm hoping the material will be more along the lines of my expectations. I don't think I can take any more "made their faces stream with bloody gouts of pus and tears that dribbled to their feet to be swallowed there by loathsome worms and maggots."

Masterpieces in Literature I and II are consecutive classes which can be used for degree requirements, or, as in my case, are required for an English minor. The workload consists mostly of reading, essay questions after each work is completed, and three essays approximately five pages in length.

A sampling of a Masterpiece:

Absolom wiped his mouth to make it dry.
The night was pitch dark, coal-black all about.
Her rear end through the window she thrust out.
He got no better or worse, did Absolom,
Than to kiss her with his mouth on the bare bum
Before he had caught on, a smacking kiss.
He jumped back, thinking something was amiss.
A woman had no beard, he was well aware,
But what he felt was rough and had long hair.

From The Canterbury Tales, The Miller's Tale. By Geoffrey Chaucer.

Biology 105 Diane Sallee

by Charles Austin

Biology 105 is part one of an 8 credit Biology study for Biology and/or science majors. In Biology 105 we have been introduced to cellular biology, biochemistry, energy pathways, cell division, genetics, and study into micro/macro evaluation and DNA. As a 100-level course Biology 105 is designed to cover a vast array of information in a short time.

I may be biased because my degree plan is Biological Sciences but I feel this is a good course. As with most courses within the university system, if you fall behind it is difficult; otherwise, it is fairly challenging. This means there is an enormous amount of information to assimilate but it is not very difficult.

Biology 105 meets twice a week, with one day being study of text and the next being lab. To help prepare for the tests I recommend not missing the quiz review after lab! Studying the review and the book material make the quizzes and tests far less difficult.

Prerequisites: One year of high school biology, and chemistry and working knowledge of the metric system.

Tests: 1 final, 3 midterms, 10 weekly quizzes, 4 lab quizzes, plus two mandatory article reviews.

Extra Credit: Two extra article reviews.

I would recommend this course to anyone that would like to gain a general understanding of life from the most minute object to the entire world and all points in between.

American Sign Language I Tracy Pifer

by Linda Duarte

This is an exciting class in which we learn the language of signing. We learn vocabulary words, sentences and eventually learn to put it all together. This is a large, enjoyable class where everybody is involved in the learning process. Particularly interesting are the field experiences we go on. We choose a deaf community event to attend where we observe interaction and practice our communication skills. There are many deaf community events throughout the month organized by the Center for Deaf Adults and the Alaska Association of the Deaf. These include pizza luncheons, bowling, workshops, and parties. For the class we are required to attend three field experiences, do one speech, write a 3-5 page paper, and have four quizzes. Of course, we spend a great deal of time practicing our signing and trying to communicate with one another efficiently. I would recommend this class to anyone. Knowing sign language can be an asset to anyone, whether you personally know a deaf person or not.

For information about Deaf Community Events in the valley, contact Dan or Barb Grisham at 376-5683

Poetry & Philosophy: Quintet Series Brown-Bag Luncheon

by Amy Menerey

The topic of the last luncheon of this series was Poetry & Philosophy: Do they matter? The discussion, which took on the form of a lecture, was held November 20th.

Judy Bronson discussed the common ideas between poetry and philosophy, the differences between them, their origins, and the career prospects in each field.

The lecture went by quickly with many ideas offered to contemplate. Judy also distributed several handouts, some of which to look over later. I found the meeting informative, and liked the idea of picking at your thoughts, or thinking about how you think. The subject matter was a sampling of a philosophy class and I found my interest heightened. I also found that I had never formally made the connection between poetry and philosophy.

Judy stressed throughout the lecture, "How do I get home?", a phrase and an idea derived from the poem, Why poetry indeed? by Alex Noble. I enjoyed this poem so much that I have printed it in its entirety below.

Poetry and philosophy, do they matter? I couldn't imagine life without them.

Why poetry indeed?

by Alex Noble

Why Poetry? Why indeed. Why life? Why communication?
Why awareness? Why growth? Why sharing? Why love?
I like to think of poetry as vision intuition,
and I like to think of a poet as one who understands
the universal harmony and beauty of things.
This poet-possibility resides in each of us. In me. In you.
Some poetry gets written down. Much does not.
Have you notices that poetry in its purest sense
is now happening around us more and more?
An on-going snowstorm of revelations, awakenings,
seeing it feeling it this is what it's like to be alive!
Drifts of miraculous snowstuff.
People reaching into themselves.
People reaching out to each other. Gifts of ideas given,
differences disappearing, barriers breaking down.
Into our innermost intuitive poet selves is the only
way to go from here, the only way up and out.
True poetry, the ability to see to the heart of things,
is nothing less than the language of survival: cosmic,
universal, planetary, personl.

What we need to do now as person-poets
is get together and plot the overthrow of the forces
of ignorance. We need to bring out the poets
in companies, battalions, brigades. We need
hurricanes of understanding and sharing,
great thundershowers of awakenings that will loosen
and nourish the dry soil, so that all those poems
insdie each of us can send up shoots, sprout forth
into the light, grow into grasses, bushes, hedges,
great trees, endless forests. The time has come for *words,*
the right words, words of vision and compassion,
because the right words are where the ideas live,
where constructive concepts are realized, words
are where we touch and tremble and swim in the
underground stream of our deepest and most divine
and nourishing selfhood.

Verses versu . . .what? Fear of self-knowledge?
What are you afraid of? The sight of the face of God?
The realization that life is more possible, mroe potential,
more magnificent than any of us even in our most visionary
moments can imagine? Are you afraid od coming home at
last?
But home is hwere you have been all along, and being
at home doesn't hurt: it helps, it heartens, it heals.
Real poetry is the new world order,
the celestial music of the new age; it's human rights
in their most essential form, it's the answer
to the energy crisis; it's the way to farm the land
and feed the multitudes. Why? Because the only
poverty is a lack of a right sense of yourself,
and real poetry, in whatever form - a song, a dance,
a parable - can give us this, can show us where
and how we fit into the universal scheme of things.
Every day an abundance: imagination, illumination,
inspiration.
Our poems are better than dollars in the bank.
If we reach down deep enough, with enough honesty,
if we refuse to ever give up the search for truth,
everyone gets fed, especially the farmer,
and the crops don't give out. They keep growing,
like ideas, down through the centuries.

How can we create a cliate in which the world
will not regard our vision as a poor cousin
from the country, but as the king and wise man he is,
the only one who can show us who and where we are?
There is no easy answer, no single solution.
But if we will be still enough, and willing enough,
and loving enough to listen, and reflect, and listen again;
if we will clear away a quiet place, and wait with hope;
we will find a way opening before us. You will find your way,
I will find mine. And it will be a beginning.

NOTICES

December Birthdays
Happy Birthday to:

Gini Gibson
Kermit Ketchum
Bette Belanger
Sherri Huck
Jessica Newcomb
David Zwink

Quintet Series to Continue

The Quintet Brown-Bag series is scheduled to continue in the Spring semester. Some of the scheduled topics thus far are:
**Women's Studies - Women's Development*
**Is the book dead in this electronic age: future of the book and libraries.*
**Writing the essay exam.*

Suggestions are welcome from students for topics of discussion. Contact Viola Harrison.

From the bookstore

***No Spring 96 textbooks will be available until Jan. 8, 1996.*

***Arriving Dec. 1, 1995 -- t-shirts, hooded and crewneck sweatshirts (long and short sleeved), and polo shirts*

ATTENTION!!!!

THE LAST DAY THE OMT SKILL CENTER WILL BE OPEN FOR STUDENTS THIS SEMESTER IS FRIDAY, DEC. 15, 1995

PLEASE HAVE YOUR ASSIGNMENTS TURNED IN BEFORE 4:00 PM!!!!

REGISTRATION REMINDER

PAYMENT IS DUE IN FULL AT TIME OF REGISTRATION. ANYONE FAILING TO COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION PROCESS, WILL BE PROMPTLY DROPPED -- SO DON'T FORGET TO GO THROUGH THE BUSINESS OFFICE!!!!

From the Library:
All overdue books must be returned before registering for the next semester. Also, books can be renewed by phone; as long as there is no hold on the book, it is not reserved, or it hasn't been renewed twice already.

Positions Open

WE NEED YOU!

The new semester will be starting soon, check your schedules to see if you could donate a little time to support your student newspaper!

MSC Monitor
Student Newspaper of Mat-Su College

Art Reporter: Report on all art related activities at Mat-Su and UAA, as well as upcoming related outside events; reviews and criticism, cover art club meetings. Must be involved in the arts, any medium, with knowledge of basic principles of method and design.

Student Government Reporter: Report on all aspects of student government: meetings, committees, etc. Must attend meetings regularly, cannot hold a position.

News Reporters: Research and investigate news around campus and the valley. A good ear and a quest for information a must.

Interviewers: Interview teachers, faculty, and students. Write biographies. Take polls.

Computer/Internet Reporter: Report on subjects of interest in the world of computers, what's happening on the Internet, etc.

Guest Columnists: Anyone wishing to report on any of the above subjects, or any other subject of interest, may do so as a guest columnist.

Submit applications or articles to Student Gov't/Monitor office, leave in our box, or write via VAX, PSAJM.

Wanna see something different in the paper? Got ideas? See Amy! Be a part of *your* student paper!

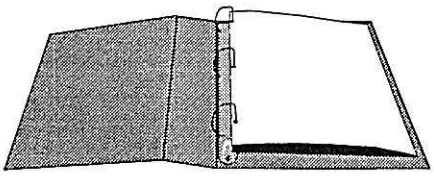
ADS

Mom couldn't take it any more! Selling over $100.00 worth of assorted Habitrail critter cages, tubes, wood chips & food (critter not included, he met with an unfortunate accident). Will sell all for $50.00!!! Fun for the kids, or companions for lonely college students! Start you critter city today! Call Amy 376-7752!!!

Brand New
1996 Skidoo, 440
Touring LE, Long track
Electric start,
Heated grips
Asking $250.00 Below
Dealer Price
373-1582
Delivery Possible

Wanted:
Single Men to attend the Christmas Ball.
Buy your tickets at the Student Government office and attend on December 15th!
Only $4.00 per student, $14.00 per non-student!
We'll see ya there!

EXTRA, EXTRA



LOST & FOUND

There are several items at the A&R Office.

*Gloves (ladies)
*Glove (one ladies)
*Various notebooks w/class notes
*Set of car keys
*Necklace
*Four pair of eyeglasses
*Child's ring

To claim your lost items, please be willing to describe the item and show identification. Clothes and/or wearing apparel will only be kept for 60 days and will then be given to charity.

BOOK BUYBACK

Need extra cash for Christmas?????

Follett Campus Resources will have a representative at MSC on December 13 and 14 from 10am to 7pm (in the bookstore). Follett buys used textbooks for cash -- based on the condition and various other marketability aspects on a book by book basis.

Scholarships Available

Delta Kappa Gamma is offering a scholarship in the amount of $600.00 to any woman who is a returning student working toward a degree in Education at the University of Alaska/Mat-Su College. Applications must be completed by Feb. 15, 1995.

Soroptomist
International of Matanuska-Susitna is offering a Youth Citizenship Award and Training Award Program The recipient must have maturity and be motivated to improve her skills and qualifications, and accept responsibility. She must be the head of her household and have a family dependent on her. She must clearly indicate that specific educational training is necessary for her entry or re-entry into the labor market. She must show financial need. She must be entering a vocational or technical training program or completing an undergraduate degree. Applications must be received by December 15, 1995.

EMI/Selena Scholarship Program
Applicants must be a U.S. citizen, be Hispanic, be a full-time sophomore at an accredited two-year college or technical school who plans to transfer to a four-year college or university and enroll full-time Fall 1996 in an undergraduate program leading to a bachelors degree. Must also have a minimum GPA of 3.0. Scholarships for music and other majors will be awarded. Must be received by Dec. 20, 1995.

See Barb Carney, Financial Aid Wizard, for more information.

Getting to know you...

Joe Welch: The Man...The Myth...The Legend

by Dancing Feather X

This is Joe's last semester here at MSC. Raven-haired, 21, and with dreamy brown eyes, Joe is planning on going on to UAA for the next two years. After that, he is thinking of going to the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco. "What is his major?", I asked him, and got ready to write fast. "Well...mythology or cosmology...maybe philosophy."

Joe came to Alaska in 1988. He attended Eagle River Elementary, and then East Anchorage HS/SWS, where he won a spelling bee. I asked what the next momentous event in his life was; he hesitated, then said decisively, "Winning the spelling bee again in Junior High." After graduating from high school, Joe went to UAF, but ran out of funds. shortly after, he learned about Job Corps, and is now finishing up a year and a half with them. Job Corps has helped fund his education at MSC.

Joe learned to love the Alaskan outdoors from his father, who took him on fishing outings. He likes to play guitar and sing and when I asked him how to spell his last name, he got a mischievous glint in his eyes and said "D-Y-L-A-N." Joe's likes to read, and he writes copiously; sometimes in Henry David Thoreau's style, and other times in a style I can only call Joe Welch's style. When Joe is not reading about Joseph Cambell (his literary hero) he is scrunching up his brow and reading about quantum mechanics. I, for one, will miss him at MSC; he's become a part of the college setting to me, and I don't think we can replace him.

The Man Behind the Wheel Dennis McKenzie

by Shelia Keyser

We often forget there is another side to Mat-Su College, the off-campus classes taught by adjuncts. I have been taking two pottery classes this semester in Big Lake. Even though that means driving all the way from downtown Palmer it has been worth it. The instructor, Dennis McKenzie creates a learning opportunity conducive to the necessary time needed to truly learn the art of throwing pottery from the wheel.

...Continued on Page 17, Dennis McKenzie

...TWO DRUNKS, *continued from page 4*

very careful on the Glenn Highway between Anchorage and the Valley. I definitely wouldn't let my mother drive during those times."

Some of the more cautious people who travel to the Valley from Anchorage for a few more drinks spend over $100 on a cab to escort them to the Valley. A clerk at the 7-11 convenience store, located on the junction of the Parks Highway and the Palmer/Wasilla Highway, quoted, "On weekends, I usually see a few Anchorage cabs pulling into the parking lot during my shift on the weekends. The customers of the cabs always come in to buy liquor, and when the cab pulls out, they always head back towards Anchorage." The 7-11 clerk also noted that the times are always early in the morning. Rick Terry, an Alaska State Trooper also related that Anchorage cabs are routinely seen in front of the two Wasilla 7-11's and other Valley liquor stores. Terry also speculated that if the Valley bars and liquor stores were shut down at 2:00 a.m., the Palmer and Wasilla Police Departments and the Valley area Alaska State Troopers could rely on reserve, on call officers from 3:00 a.m. until 8:00 a.m.

Let's go back to the fictitious story of Jake and Ben, who make it safely driving from Anchorage to the Wasilla Bar while both are definitely inebriated. The two irresponsible friends stagger out of the Wasilla Bar around 4:30 a.m. After a full night of drinking and having fun, Jake feels he can make it home to Anchorage if he closes one eye while driving because he is seeing double. Jake is speeding down the Glenn Highway at around 80 m.p.h.; Ben is slurring comments of how much fun he had, but is now very hungry. Jake pulls into Eagle River at around 5:00 a.m., figuring to stop at a convenience store to purchase some food for the road. Speeding through the little town streets, Jake notices two small bright red lights in front of him. In his impaired mind, he tries to make out what those bright red lights mean. Thinking that he is pressing down on the brake pedal to slow down, Jake accelerates. The two red lights loom bigger, and Jake realizes they are the brake lights of a car stopped at an intersection. He slams down on the accelerator pedal, thinking he is still on the brakes and slams into the car. Wearing no seat belts, Jake and Ben are catapulted out of the front windshield. The compact Ford Escort in front of them is pushed through the intersection with the rear end of the car shoved halfway up the chassis. Paramedics pronounce these hapless men dead at the scene. The passengers of the Escort, a young mother and her five-year-old son are rushed to the nearest hospital. The little boy dies from brain contusions, and his mother is paralyzed permanently from the neck down.

Thank God that Jake and Ben are fictitious, and so is their story. These kind of scenarios do happen. In the opinion of these two writers, closing all liquor establishments in the Mat Su Borough at the same time Anchorage establishments close, would eliminate many drunk driving accidents and deaths on the Glenn Highway and in the Valley.

SPACE: "MAP" part 2

by Dancing Feather x

...The snowflakes drifted softly, I relaxed with a cup of hot apple cider, and lazily penned out crystallized ideas. Unlike a pounding rainstorm of water drops, crashing against my skull, this soft, white lace fell clingingly onto the table of my mind, clear and detailed; everyone ordered and in place, fitting into themselves like a three-dimensional puzzle. These memories are not bound by gravity because they are in a separate dimension; a dimension that is not caught by the force of *the* black hole. Most memories are lost; they slide into that gravity hole, never to resurface. The only way to retrieve these thoughts...is to lose them in the first place. You need a map in your mind to find them.

Memories without maps are sent to never never land where they remain, imprisoned by gravity until you relax. But even then, memories have a hard time bouncing out of your force field - your black hole. The question last month was how to "trace" these memories with enough tags to retrieve them when you're ready - for example, when you are ready to take your final for the semester. Mapping memories is not exactly like making ordinary maps. Space is four-dimensional, and memories are ten-dimensional. Memories have depth breadth, width, and movement (time value); they record what the eye saw, what the nose smelt, what the tongue tasted, what the finger felt, what the ear heard, and how you perceived it all.

Too often, we think we can retrieve a memory using a tag that has only two dimensions: a word. Let's try to memorize this key term: Karst. Karst is a word used to describe "a topography developed as a consequence of subsurface solution" i.e., limestone dissolves beneath the ground and causes sinkholes. Unless you are a very weird person, with a two-dimensional brain (there are some people like that you know) you will not be able to memorize this without some application. Let's put "karst" into a ten-dimensional memory.

Imagine a lawn...a large lawn, like you would find on a golf course. It is long, and wide. Now as you watch, little sinkholes start dipping round about you, like thumb indents in raising bread dough. Suddenly, the ground beneath your feet begins to sink, and this one breaks through: now you're standing up to your knees in briny water, a hole in the turf three feet above your head. Since you're already down here, you look around. Large stalactites hang from the roof of this winding cave, and on the tip of each are stuck...limes.

Yes, dripping, green limes. You can smell the limes quite distinctly, and you're nose sniffs as you realize you are standing in lime juice! The sunlight hits it, and sure enough, it is green. You reach up and pull a lime off, but it is scalding hot, and you burn your hand. Next time you're careful, and use your shirttail to protect your hand. The lime cools off, and you decide to try it, but it screams in this high, shrill voice, "Don't eat me!" You ignore the little fellow, and take a big juicy bite and let the lime dribble down your chin. You look around you and say to yourself, "Huh, so this is how Karst topography is made. Limestone dissolves, and sinkholes happen." What we have just made is a ten-dimensional map in your mind of what "karst" is.

Research shows that the more action, color, taste, sound, touch, and smell you add to the memory, the more retrievable it will be. This memory we just made, is strong enough to last most people about a week. If you wanted to remember it forever, you must follow these steps. Go over it again, vividly, in about three hours. Go over it again tomorrow. In three days, go over it again. One week from now, go over it a last time, and you will have it for life. Your brain is amazingly adept at picking up this kind of stuff - and you don't have to worry about space - you've got plenty of it.

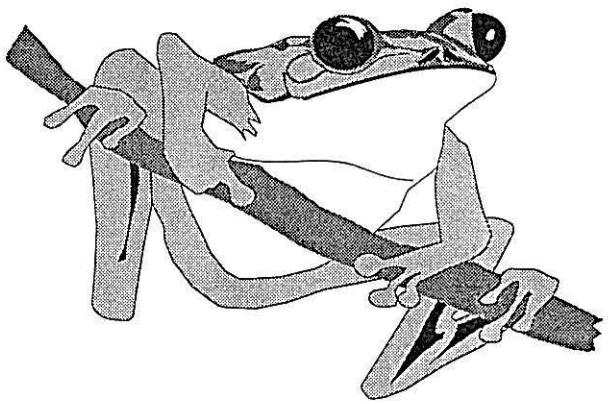
Now that you know how to make a memory map, you have no excuse for forgetting stuff anymore! The only reason for not knowing will be because you were too lazy to make a map and reinforce it. But how do you keep from being lazy? How do you make time in your time to make memory maps? A hah, you must wait for the next issue of the Monitor where the final part of this discussion will be concluded.

Ever wonder where your textbooks dollars go???

Here's what we found: **

37.3 cents to Publisher's Paper, Printing, Editorial Costs
13.9 cents to College Store Personnel Costs
12.9 cents to Publisher's Marketing Costs
9.7 cents to Publisher and Author Taxes
7.6 cents to Publisher Income (after taxes)
7.5 cents to Author Income (after taxes)
5.5 cents to College Store Operations
3.9 cents to College Store Income (pre-tax)
1.7 cents to College Store Freight Expense

** The statistics are based on 1990 and 1991 financial data gathered by the Association of American Publishers and National Association of College Stores. These numbers are averages and don't represent any particular publisher or store.



HANG IN THERE!!

YOU might be a college student if .....

* you ever price shopped for Top Ramen.
* you live in a house with 3 couches, none of which match.
* you consider Mac and Cheese a balanced meal.
* you have ever written a check for 45 cents.
* you have seen two consectutive sunrises without sleeping.
* your glass set is composed of McDonald's Extra Value Meal Plastic Cups
* your underwear supply dictates the time between laundry loads
* you cannot remember when you last washed your car.
* you can pack your worldly possessions into the back of a pick-up (one trip).
* you have ever had to justify yourself for buying Natural Light.
* you catch yourself typing notes to your children.
* your idea of housecleaning is clearing the dining room table of your textbooks.
* remembering the names of your children becomes another test you have to cram for.
* you remember what day it is by what class you will be in that day.
* you are reciting algebraic formulas in your sleep.
* your idea of a home cooked meal is cafeteria food.
* left over pizza and beer is your idea of breakfast.

YOU KNOW YOU'VE BEEN A COLLEGE STUDENT TOO LONG IF:

*You hug your books, dream of homework, and the only thing you've turned on lately is a computer!

Derived from the Internet Humor @ UGA.CC.UGA.EDU, and personal experience.

RELAX, FINALS ARE ALMOST OVER!

The Accountant

It seems there was an accountant who had a very busy tax season and wanted to get away from it all. He went to the mountains and spent his days roaming the hills.

During one his outings he noticed a shepherd out with his flock of sheep. The accountant became enchanted with the idea of retiring and living an idealic life of tending sheep. An idea occurred to him so he approached the shepherd and said, "Hey, if I can guess how many sheep you have in your flock, can I have one?" The shepherd thought about it for a moment and replied, "Sure." The accountant glanced at the flock and turned to the shepherd and proclaimed, "You have 287 sheep!" The astonished shepherd said: "Well, yes I do! But how did you know that?" The accountant just smiled and picked up his prize. But before he could walk away the shepherd called him back saying: "Hey, if I can guess what you do for a living, could I get my animal back?" The accountant thought for minute and said: "I guess that would only be fair." The shepherd smiled and said: "You're and accountant, right?" The amazed accountant said: "Why, yes, but how did you know that?" The shepherd smiled and said: "OK, give me back my dog and I'll tell you."

From the Internet, Humor @ UGA.CC.UGA.EDU

CLUBBIN' IT

The following clubs are currently in existence. Meeting times vary, contact these people for more information:

Accounting Club - Patty Sikes, 373-1498, currently meeting twice monthly after Student Government meetings on Fridays.

MENC (Music) - Dessa Dickerson, 892-6857 or Stephen Tarr 373-0785

Noonsingers - Jess Baker, 745-2954

Art Club - Carolyn Long, 892-8816

ASHRAE - Larry Larrecou, 338-3936

Contact Michelle, Student Government Secretary, regarding formation of new clubs.

The Chicken Little Syndrome

by Sandi Pinkston

What do these items all have in common? Frogs? Apples? Insects? Fish? Chicken Little kept giving the warning of..."The sky is falling! The sky is falling!"

Mr. Little was convinced that the sky was falling after several objects clunked him on the head. Well, he was right, the sky is falling. Ordinary people have long known what science didn't acknowledge until 1803, rocks were falling from the sky. meterorites are now scientific fact. The scientific community is now scrambling to explain worldwide reports of animals, plant life, and unidentifiable substances falling from the sky. From ancient times to the present, the accounts stand mostly unexplained, such as the Bible's chronicle of manna, a white flaky substance that fell from the sky each night for forty years.

In 1969, St. Louis police received hundreds of phone calls reporting Gossamer-like threads falling from the sky. In Florida, hundreds of people witnessed great white sheets of spider web drift earthward. The probable culprit: the Balloon Spider. This ingenious little arachnid spins out a mini silken parasail, catches the wind, and sails away, the air thick with web when there is a mass migration. But spider aviators did not explain the chunks of unidentified red meat that suddenly rained on a Kentucky farm, in 1976, from a calm, clear sky.

Stories of falling frogs, toads and tadpoles are found globally. Several hundred frogs showered 150 men of the grand guard in Lelain, France in 1794, dozens being caught on handkerchiefs. A 1963 frog rain in northern Greece covered roads so thickly, traffic was brought to an absolute standstill.

Fish rains, reported since ancient Egypt, come in all sizes, dead and alive. A Louisiana Department of Wildlife biologist saw hundreds of dead fish baptize a local town in 1947. And a fishing trawler on Lake Michigan, in 1886, almost sank after being bombarded with thousands of smelt. With explanations ranging from to waterspouts to UFOs, this weird meteorological list continues to grow with reports of live snakes, snails, beetles, and ants showering the unsuspecting citizenry.

Imagine what you would do if suddenly you looked up and this came down on you. Horrified residents of Bucharest, Romainia in 1872, witnessed a deluge of black worms the size of horseflies that blackened the streets.

Birds are not exempt from this bizarre registry. Warner Robbin Air Force Base in Georgia, had 50,000 dead birds come crashing onto the tarmac on an afternoon in 1954. A few years later, Arkansas residents dodged hundreds of mallard ducks that suddenly began to plummet earthward, frozen solid.

We have all heard of the campy move"Attack of the Killer Tomotoes," but apples? An English family was awakened by what sounded like a heard of horses on the roof of their home. This incredulous family watched apples, hundreds of them, fall like oversized raindrops, for over an hour.

Explanations abound, some plausible, some ridiculous, most a feeble attempt to keep our world in order, with one question continuously pestering: Why are these weird rains selective? If that wild gust of wind scooped up frogs in the pond, why weren't the fish, plants, and other local fauna included? Even meteorites were initially dismissed as "physically impossible." Could the phrase "raining cats and dogs" have any validity? Better see what Chicken Little has to say. (Or maybe Santa dropped something.)

Dennis McKenzie, *cont. from pg. 14*

Dennis began in his late teens and early twenties as a photographer but always wanted to learn pottery. He became friends with Lindly Mixon and his life changed forever. Mixon taught Dennis everything about pottery, from making clays to building a kiln. "The bug bit hard" as Dennis puts it. He wasn't financially able to pursue this career yet so he tried other areas. He was a singer and performer in the British Folk Music at Ashgrove, and pitched hay and milked cows for Jalmar Kertulla. His last "real" job was as a carpenter. He met Vickie Cole in the mid-seventies, fell in love, and lucky for him she already had a studio. With just a few adjustments he was in business. Over the years he has added sailing to his hobbies and is now "boat crazy." His latest excursion took him, Vickie, and son Dave from Seward to Mexico to Hawaii, and then back to Seward. Just sailing isn't enough, of course, he also builds kayaks. He has two and a half built so far. The half doesn't float too well right now. Maybe once it's finished it will. "Teaching became a way of diversifying and making a living other than selling just my own work , and after the 5000-mile sailing trip we needed the money." "Pottery is not easy but fascinates you enough to keep going."

Sharon Winter--Admissions & Records Coordinator

by Amy Byron

This is definitely a busy time of year, with spring registration in full gear, for Admissions & Records Coordinator, Sharon Winter. Although Sharon now works in a new office located in the Machetanz Building, the process of registration is nothing new to Sharon. She has been working in the Registration office at Mat-Su College since 1984, and has been the "head boss" (Admissions & Records Coordinator) since 1987.

Like most of us, Sharon is not originally from Alaska, but came here from Decatur, Illinois. Planning to stay just two years, Sharon and her husband of soon to be 40 years, have been in Alaska since arriving in 1977. They have two children who have both attended Mat-Su College.

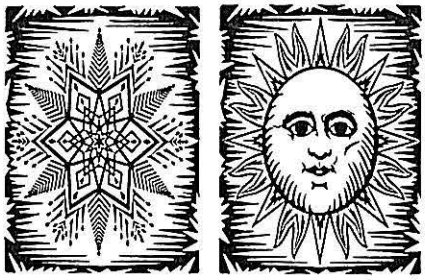
The business of the holidays fits right into Sharon's favorite activities of cooking, shopping, and reading. Sharon also plans on going to Las Vagas with her husband to celebrate their 40th anniversary in January.

Reports on Seasonal Depression

by Sandra Ackerman
BrainWork, November-December 1995

Shorter; SAD days. In autumn, when the sky is often overcast and the days are drawing in, many a psychiatrist's thoughts turn to seasonal affective disorder (SAD). This disturbance of mood, with its accompanying sleepiness, weight gain, and often some degree of social withdrawal, is estimated to affect six percent of Americans every year. While the precise physiological basis for SAD remains unknown, several options for treating the disorder are either in place or under scrutiny for possible use in the near future.

The best known form of therapy for SAD is to spend a certain length of time daily in front of a "light



box," a structure fitted with fluorescent bulbs that give off a set amount of light into the user's face. The light does not damage the eyes but is thought to help adjust the user's circadian rhythm by delivering a large amount of light to the retina - that is, by mimicking the effect of a bright summer day.

Light therapy from a light box does work, but not everyone who suffers from SAD can sit in front of a light box every day for an hour or so, and therefore interest has turned toward ways to make this therapy more convenient. Hence, the "light visor," a smaller unit that delivers the same amount of light but is worn directly on the head. Developed in the laboratory of Norman Rosenthal, a pioneer in the identification and early treatment of SAD, the light visor must now be tested in comparative studies, alongside the light box.

In a paper in the *American Journal of Psychiatry* (August), psychiatrist Martin Teicher; Rosenthal, and their colleagues describe such a study and conclude that use of the light visor is associated with some gain in well-being, but only a moderate amount. The researchers found no significant difference in outcome whether the visor emitted bright white light or dim red light, and whether it was worn for 30 minutes or for 60, so it was unclear which aspect, if any, was responsible for the improvement. This suggests the light visor may deliver an effect that is little more than that of a placebo.

Another aspect of SAD research is the scientific effort to meet one important criterion for the growing recognition that it is a genuine ailment with physiological as well as affective (mood) components. That criterion is evidence showing that the disorder can cross national and cultural boundaries.

A study of Japanese civil servants was conducted recently by Norio Ozaki of the National Institute of Mental Health and his colleagues there and in Japan. When assessed by means of a questionnaire, the more than 1,200 subjects revealed a prevalence of 0.86 percent for winter seasonal affective disorder and another 0.86 percent for a milder, "subsyndromal" form. (Interestingly, they also showed rates of 0.95 percent and 2.12 percent, respectively, for summer seasonal affective disorder - an ailment rarely discussed in American medical literature - and for its subsyndromal form.)

Ozaki's figures do not necessarily apply to the Japanese population as a whole; the great majority of the research subjects were female, middle-class, urban dwellers. Nevertheless, although the prevalence rates are lower than those in the United States and in Europe, they help to support the notion that seasonal changes in ambient light and/or temperature can exert powerful effects on the physical and mental health of humans the world over.

the night before finals

by Ron Roberson

'Twas the night before finals,
And all through my brain.
Knowledge was traveling,
As on a wee tiny train.

My palms were all sweaty,
And my face was all flushed,
I waited so long,
That now I was rushed.

The computer was humming,
As I donned my study hat.
I've only tonight,
To get it down pat.

Formulas, questions and answers,
Locked in my mind.
In hopes that my teachers,
Would surely be kind.

I studied, and studied,
And studied some more.
Just to make sure,
To get a high score.

English and history,
Music and math.
I've got all the answers,
I said with a laugh.

Now as I sit down,
Prepared for my trial.
I'm anxious and nervous,
But that's just my style.

I looked at the questions,
My face turned all green.
For NONE of these problems,
Had I ever seen.

I tensed as I dug,
Deep down in my head.
I knew in a flash,
That now I was dead.

Waiting for grades,
I'll shed not a tear.
For I must do it again,
Beginning next year.

But I have to remember,
As I lay down to rest.
No matter the outcome,
I gave it my best.

Emmons, *continued from pg. 1*

complaints in the **1995-1997 College Bulletin.** Affirmative action and sexual harassment are dealt with in Chapter 1; an academic appeal process is outlined in Chapter 4, and the entirety of Chapter 5 deals with student rights and responsibilities.

I strongly encourage students to try first to resolve complaints directly with the employee involved. Most often we find problems arise from misunderstanding or miscommunication. We are fortunate at Matanuska-Susitna College in having a relatively small faculty and staff. This allows us to give personal attention to concerns that would not be possible in a larger campus environment. Faculty and staff are very open to working with the students, and are willing to listen to their complaints and concerns. In addition, I am available to help deal with issues that may arise, as well as the staff of the counseling center. If an informal resolution is not possible, then a formal administrative appeals procedure is available. This procedure, similar to the one outlined in the Bulletin under academic appeals, requires a written request that clearly sets forth the action to be reviewed, and the corrective action sought. The counseling office can provide guidance in the formal appeal process.

For You Calculus Fans... by Steve Warner

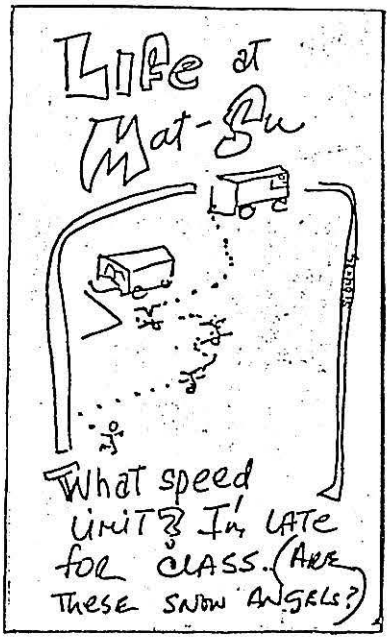
$$\lim_{\Delta \text{ time} \to 0} \frac{\Delta \text{ Homework}}{\Delta \text{ Family}} = |\Delta \text{ stress}|$$

$$\left(\begin{matrix}\text{school}\\ \text{sleep deprivation}\end{matrix}\right) = -|\Delta \text{ Grades}|$$

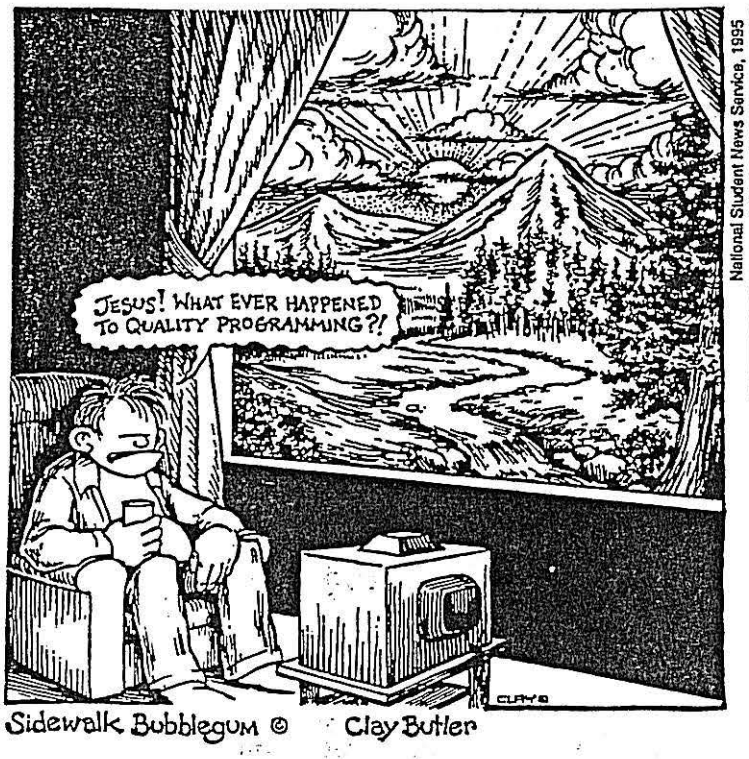
OR

$$\left(\begin{matrix}\text{school}\\ \\ \text{sleep deprivation}\end{matrix}\right. = -|\Delta \text{ Grades}|$$

Life at Mat-Su by Sue Reed



Last Chance for this semester. The last issue of the MSC Monitor will be printed December 12th. Last minute notices, comments, or articles need to be submitted by December 9th!!!



Ideas, questions, comments? Do you have something to say? We'd like to print it. Do you have a particular interest, job, or hobby you'd like to share? We'd like to hear about it. See Amy at the Monitor office, or drop submissions in the blue Monitor box outside the office. We'd like to hear from you!